

## Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
----- 067397

O R 261540Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3033

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 4260

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, SMITH, HUNTER)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS

REF: KINSHASA 4315

1. ON RECEIPT REFTEL I WENT BY TO SEE NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR FEIN. IT WAS NOT AWKWARD TO RAISE SUBJECT AS HE HAD ALLUDED TO HAVING HAD CONTACT WITH POSSIBLE INTERMEDIARY WHEN I PHONED NEWS OF SMUTS' RELEASE TO HIM YESTERDAY AND THAT HE HAD PLANNED TO COME SEE ME ABOUT IT. HE DID NOT AMPLIFY FURTHER AT TIME OTHER THAN TO SAY SMUTS' RELEASE MADE THIS AVENUE NO LONGER WORTH PURSUING.

2. WHEN I BRIEFED HIM ON CONTENTS OF LETTER SIGNED BY FOUR STUDENTS GIVEN TO AMBASSADOR CARTER (HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED COPY OF LETTER GIVEN TO HIS AMBASSADOR IN DAR), HE AGREED THAT SITUATION REMAINS VERY SERIOUS AND THAT IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE IN OUR JOINT INTEREST TO CONSIDER ALL POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR SECURING RELEASE OF REMAINING THREE STUDENTS. HE THEN GAVE ME ACCOUNT OF HIS MEETING WITH FANI WILLIAM MUGWADI (LATTER SPELLING IN SUBJECTS OWN HANDWRITING AND IS AT VARIANCE WITH SPELLING REFTEL).

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3. MUGWADI CALLED ON AMBASSADOR FEIN MAY 24 TO OFFER ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING RELEASE OF DUTCH GIRL. SAID HE COULD AND WOULD DO NOTHING ON BEHALF OF AMERICANS AS PROBABLE ABDUCTING ORGANIZATIONS STRONGLY ANTI-AMERICAN DUE TO U.S. POLICIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. (AT THAT TIME, OF COURSE, IDENTITY OF ABDUCTING ORGANIZATION NOT YET KNOWN TO US.) MUGWADI DID NOT ASK FOR MONEY AND CLAIMED HE WANTED TO HELP OBTAIN RELEASE OF DUTCH GIRL BECAUSE OF HIS FRIENDLY FEELINGS TOWARDS NETHERLANDS. HE GAVE AS REFERENCE NAME OF ZIMBABWE NATIONAL WHO HAD MARRIED DUTCH WOMEN AND SETTLED IN NETHERLANDS. FEIN'S CHECK WITH THE HAGUE REVEALED THAT THIS PERSON NAMED HAD INDEED LIVED IN NETHERLANDS, BUT HAD LEFT ONE YEAR AGO.

4. WHEN FEIN INSISTED THAT MUGWADI SHOW IDENTIFICATION, HE RELUCTANTLY PRODUCED CANCELLED BRITISH PASSPORT MENTIONED REFTEL. HE NOTED THAT IT HAD BEEN STAMPED NOT VALID FOR TRAVEL IN TANZANIA. IN RESPONSE TO FEIN'S QUERY, HE CLAIMED THAT THIS HAD BEEN MISTAKE AND THAT IF HE DECIDED TO SEEK RELEASE OF DUTCH STUDENT HE WOULD TRAVEL TO EASTERN ZAIRE BY WAY OF TANZANIA AND BURUNDI. MUGWADI SAID HE WAS FORMERLY JOURNALIST, BUT AT PRESENT TIME LIVING IN NAIROBI AS ZIMBABWE "POLITICAL REFUGEE" SUPPORTED BY "HIS FRIENDS". HE CLAIMED TO KNOW TOP KENYANS INCLUDING PRESIDENT KENYATTA AND MINISTER FOR STATE KOINANGE. FEIN SAID HE SEEMED INTELLIGENT, WELL EDUCATED AND WAS PARTICULARLY WELL INFORMED ON VARIOUS LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. MUGWADI REFERRED TO ZAIRIAN REBELS IN EASTERN ZAIRE AS "HIS FRIENDS". HE SAID THAT EARLIER THESE GROUPS HAD BEEN WELL SUPPLIED WITH CHINESE ARMS BROUGHT IN THROUGH TANZANIA, BUT THAT MOBUTU HAD "OUTSMARTED" THEM BY ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH CHINA THEREBY CUTTING OFF ARMS FLOW. AS RESULT, MUGWADI SAID THESE GROUPS NOW FEELING VERY ISOLATED.

5. FEIN IS UNDECIDED WHETHER HE SHOULD TRY TO SEE MUGWADI AGAIN IN VIEW OF HIS QUESTIONABLE BACKGROUND. HIS LAST INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE HAGUE WERE TO CONTINUE "TALKING" TO HIM. FEIN SAID HE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MUGWADI WE MIGHT HAVE IN OUR FILES IN WASHINGTON OR AT ADDRESSEE POSTS. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED ME TO MAKE NO INQUIRIES IN KENYA AS THESE MIGHT GET BACK TO MUGWADI AND SCARE HIM OFF. I AGREED.

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6. COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE WOULD BE APPRECIATED.  
LINDSTROM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 26 MAY 1975  
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